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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES [US/US]; Medical Center Boulevard, Winston-Salem, NC 27157 (US).

(71) Applicants and

(72) Inventors: ARGENTA, Louis, C. [US/US]; 525 Knob View Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27104 (US). MORYK-WAS, Michael, J. [US/US]; 6147 Spring Forest Drive, Pfafftown, NC 27040 (US). WEBB, Lawrence, X. [US/US]; 620 Glen Echo Trail, Winston-Salem, NC 27106 (US).

(74) Agent: PIPER, Donald, R., Jr.; Dann, Dorfman, Herrell and Skillman, 1601 Market Street, Suite 720, Philadelphia, PA 19103 (US).

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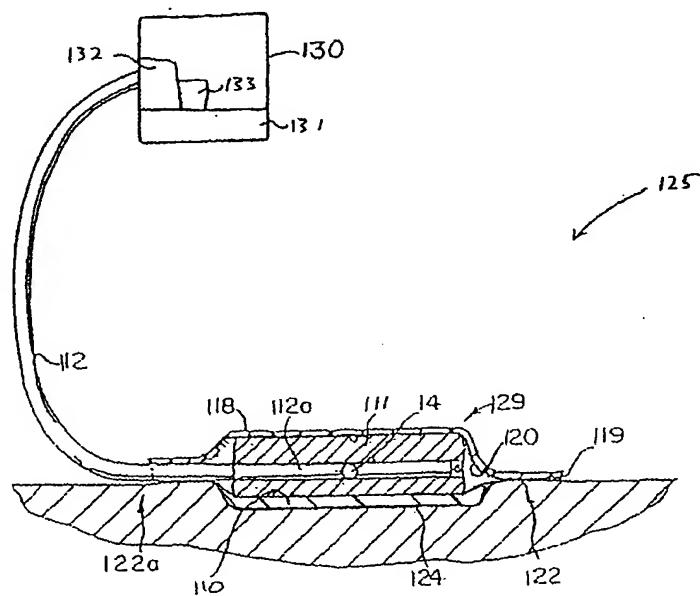
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(54) Title: DIRECTED TISSUE GROWTH EMPLOYING REDUCED PRESSURE



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(57) Abstract: A tissue growth apparatus (125) and method are provided for growing tissue by applying a tissue growth medium (110) to the tissue (124) and applying reduced, sub-atmospheric pressure at the growth medium (110) and the tissue (124) in a controlled manner for a selected time period. The application of reduced pressure at the growth medium (110) and tissue (124) promotes growth of the tissue within the tissue growth medium. The apparatus includes a tissue cover (118) sealed over a tissue site. The apparatus also includes a tissue growth medium (110) located beneath the tissue cover (118) and in contact with the tissue (124) to be grown. A vacuum pump (130) supplies suction within the tissue cover (118) over the tissue site to provide reduced pressure to the tissue (124) and the tissue growth medium (110).

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/16763

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61F 13/53
US CL : 602/48, 50, 42

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
U.S. : 602/48, 50, 42; 604/73

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2001/0043943 A1 (COFFEY) 22 NOVEMBER 2001, (22.12.2001) SEE ENTIRE DOCUMENT	1-114
Y	US 5717030 A (DUNN ET AL) 10 FEBRUARY 1998 (10.02.1998) SEE ENTIRE DOCUMENT	1-114

<input type="checkbox"/>	Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	<input type="checkbox"/>	See patent family annex.
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"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703)305-3230	Authorized officer Daron DeMille Telephone No. (703) 308-0858